

CONFERENCE HAS EYE ON FOOTBALL

A Committee to Investigate Game in Colleges Under Its Control.

ABANDON VIRGINIA
THE BIBLE SOCIETY

An Earnest Debate Between Dr.
Whitehead and Cannon, Mr.
J. P. Branch and Others.
Reception At Ran-
dolph-Macon In-
stitute.

DANVILLE, VA., November 11.—The fourth day's session of the Virginia Methodist Conference was lively and interesting.

In the early hours of the session, Rev. W. G. Bates and R. H. James got right on the gridiron and offered a resolution asking for the appointment of a committee to investigate the game of football as now played, and report at next session what action conference should take to reform the game at the educational institutions under its care.

The resolution was referred to the Educational Committee, and it may come up later for lively and interesting discussion.

Buy Bibles Elsewhere.

The most extended debate of the session so far was brought on by two reports from the committee appointed last year to inquire into the conference relations with the Virginia Bible Society. The majority report recommended a continuance of said relation. The minority report recommended the revoking of the arrangement, and that the conference form an alliance with the American Bible Society. The minority report was adopted and this action is regarded as a rather serious blow to the Virginia Society.

Drs. W. G. Starr and J. T. Whitley and Rev. J. T. Mastin were elected delegates to the general conference which is to meet in Birmingham next spring.

A Memorial.

The morning session closed with the reading of a memorial to Rev. R. E. Bentley, the only member of the conference to pass away during the past year.

To-night a reception was tendered the members of Conference at the Randolph Macon Institute.

Most of the members attended and inspected the grounds and buildings of the institute, all of which were brilliant and well lighted. The supper was superb and well supplied art gallery attracted the most attention. The young lady students of the institution served refreshments. Altogether the reception was one of the most pleasant affairs of the year.

Praise Service
The devotional exercises were continued a half hour longer than usual, in order to hear an address by Dr. W. F. Tillett on the subject of praise service.

In a short while after the conference opened for business, the Rev. W. A. Bates offered a resolution providing for a committee to investigate the game of foot-ball, as at present played by the students of the institutions of learning under the control of this conference, and

Dr. Whitehead, from the special committee to inquire into the operations of the Virginia Bible Society, submitted a majority report, recommending that the conference's relations and arrangements with the Virginia Bible Society be discontinued. Dr. James Cannon submitted a minority report, signed by himself, recommending that at this session of the conference the American Bible Society make the conference's agent for circulating the Bible, and that all money to be used for this purpose be paid over to the American Bible Society.

These conflicting reports brought about lengthy discussion. Drs. Cannon and Whitehead made strong speeches, advocating their respective reports. Several other speakers took part in the discussion.

Dr. Whitehead made a reply to Dr. Cannon, in which he said that the work of the Virginia Bible Society was being well performed. He took occasion to

well performed. He took up the arguments of Dr. Cannon and answered each fully. The Rev. B. L. Lipscomb advocated the minority report, saying that he favored sending the money direct to headquarters in New York, on the same plan as the mission collections were distributed. Dr. Hannon opposed the minority report. John P. Branch, of Richmond, took the floor and strongly supported the Virginia Bible Society.

said that affairs of the society were excellently and economically administered. "The only trouble," said the speaker, "is that we have given so little we are ashamed of it. We of Virginia should not turn our backs on our own society."

The minority report was adopted by a vote of 148 to 64, and the Methodists have severed connection with the Virginia Bible Society and will hereafter affiliate with the American Bible Society.

After further responses to minute, Question 20, in which the ministers of the Petersburg District passed in character, and the Rev. J. R. Griffith was recommended for superannuary relation, the Committee on Memoirs presented its

report. Only one death occurred during the past year, that of Rev. R. E. Bently, who died last spring at Urbana.

Rev. J. T. Whitley read the memoir.

Proceedings in Detail.

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The fourth day of the conference was the twenty-third annual session of the Virginia Conference, M. E. Church, South, opened with Dr. W. F. Tillett, dean of the Vanderbilt University, conducting the half hour's devotional exercises. At the request of the Conference, Dr. Tillett ad-

addressed the meeting on the subject of "Proper Pralae Service," that is to say, the proper use of the hymn book. Imme-
